BUBBLE
BUBBLE

PAAH
SPLASH
AHH
COUGH
COUGH
T-THANKS FOR HELPING ME, RAMLO!
I ALMOST DIED BACK THERE!

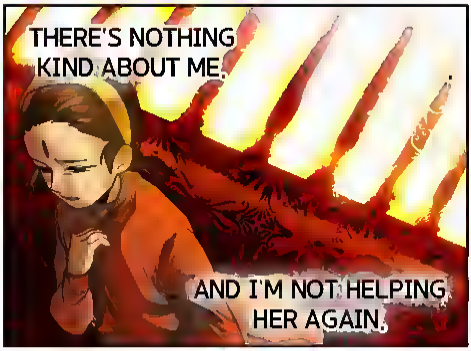
HEY,
HAHA...
WHY WOULD SOMEONE AS WEAK AS YOU GO IN THE WATER?
ARE YOU DUMB? AND I WASN'T HELPING YOU!

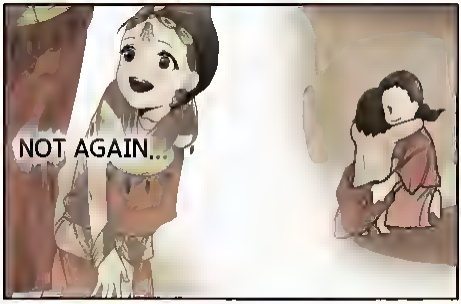
RAMLO.
RAMLO MEANS "WHITE FACE"! IT'S A GREAT NAME.
KUMARIS HAVE TO BE PRETTY, AND FAIR-SKINNED.
IT'S LIKE YOU WERE BORN TO BE A KUMARI! EVEN YOUR NAME!
HUH? YOU'RE EVEN WHITER THAN I AM.
MUMBLE
SO PALE
NO, IT'S DIFFERENT! I'M JUST PALE BECAUSE I'M SICK!!

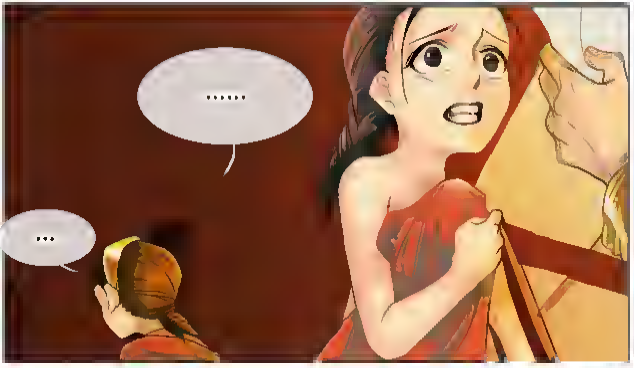
RAMLO
I LIKE YOU.
?!
I JUST,
WANTED TO TELL YOU
BEFORE YOU LEFT.

GOOD LUCK ON THE KUMARI TEST.

KIND? HAH!
DON'T ACT LIKE
YOU KNOW ME.


THERE'S NOTHING KIND ABOUT ME.
AND I'M NOT HELPING HER AGAIN.


NOT AGAIN...


.....
...

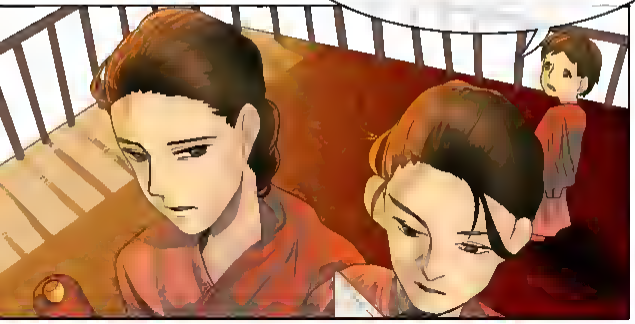
UGH

URGH
WHISH
...EXCUSE ME!!
NO, LOOK CAREFULLY.

IF YOU JUST
WIPE IT WITH A WET CLOTH LIKE THIS...
...!

IT'S PROBABLY..

JUST SOME SPIT THAT DRIED ON HER FROM HELPING THAT LITTLE KID GET UNDRESSED BEFORE....



...

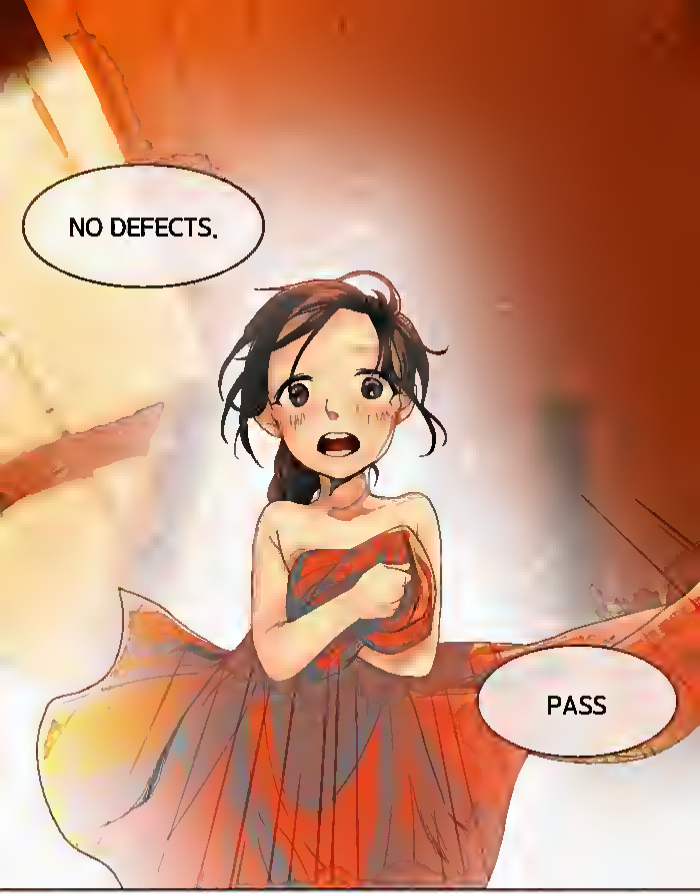
SITA JARUNA

SITA BORGH

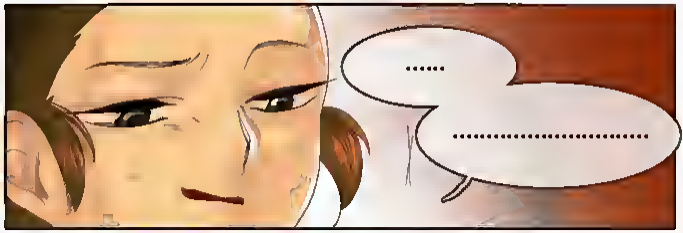
SITA RAMLO

.....

SITA JARUNA,


NO DEFECTS.
PASS

JUMP
SPIN


.....
.....

.....!!
...!!
...!!!!

OH MY GOD!!!
I THOUGHT I WAS
GONNA FAIL!!!
AGH YOU'RE
GETTING ME
ALL DIRTY!!
I SHOULD'VE
JUST LET HER...

RUSTLE
FIDGET
ARE YOU SLEEPING RAMLO?
YUP.

...
...
TODAY WAS TOUGH, HUH?
I SAID I'M SLEEPING
WHY'D SHE EVEN ASK

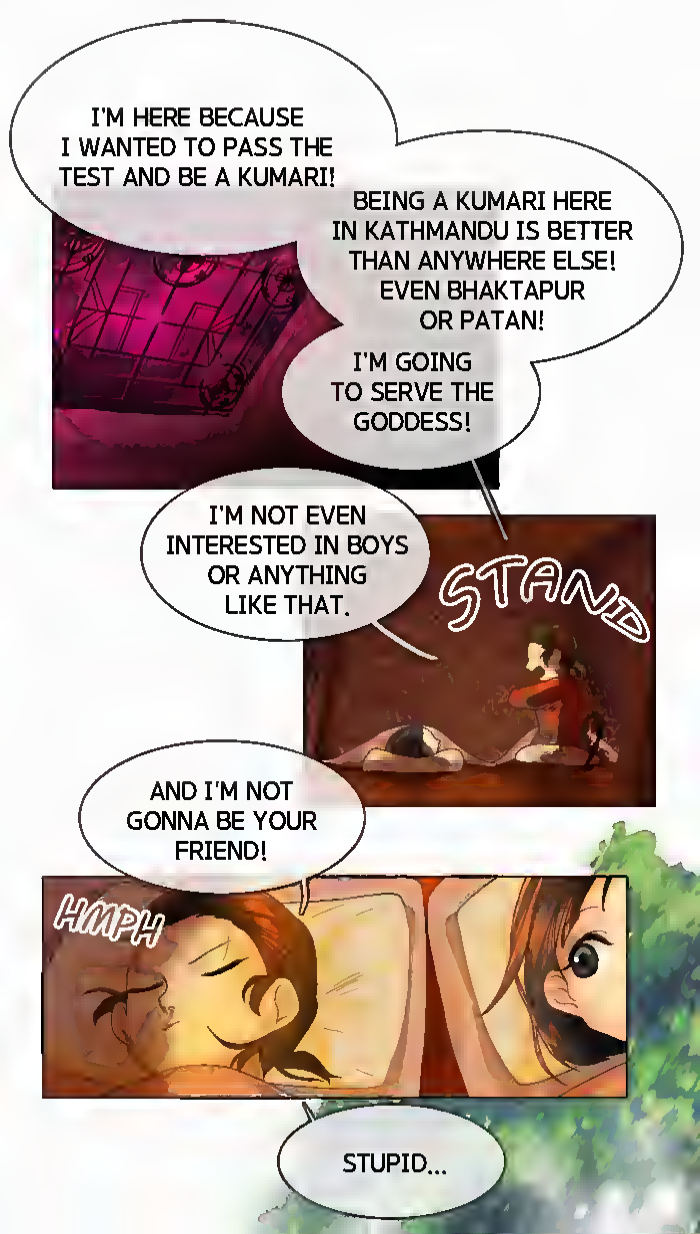
I THOUGHT MY FAMILY WAS SHUDRA BECAUSE WE'RE POOR.
BUT I GUESS YOU CAN'T EVEN BE HERE IF YOU'RE NOT A KSHATRIYA OR VAISHYA.
PLUS BOTH OF YOUR PARENTS HAVE TO BE ALIVE.
*LEVELS OF THE PYRAMID STRUCTURE CASTE SYSTEM. BRAHMINS > KSHATRIYAS > VAISHYAS > SHUDRAS
THIS WHOLE KUMARI TEST IS SO COMPLEX.
LOOKS LIKE YOU DIDN'T DO MUCH RESEARCH BEFORE YOU CAME HERE..

YOU SEEM SO MATURE RAMLO

OBVIOUSLY

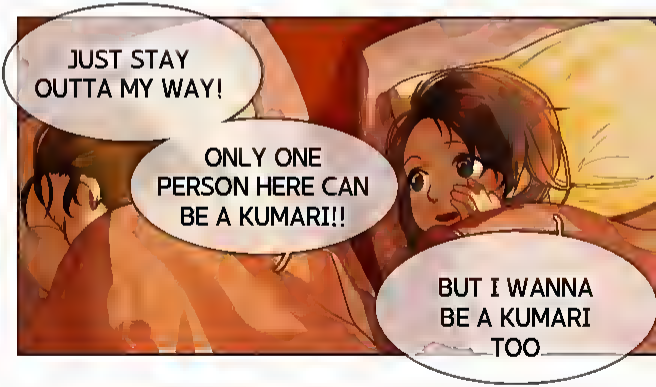
I'M NOT LIKE THESE LITTLE FOUR OR FIVE-YEAR-OLD BRATS!

I'M SIX!


I'M HERE BECAUSE I WANTED TO PASS THE TEST AND BE A KUMARI!
BEING A KUMARI HERE IN KATHMANDU IS BETTER THAN ANYWHERE ELSE! EVEN BHAKTAPUR OR PATAN!
I'M GOING TO SERVE THE GODDESS!
I'M NOT EVEN INTERESTED IN BOYS OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT.
STAND
AND I'M NOT GONNA BE YOUR FRIEND!
HMPH
STUPID...

RAMLO.
DO YOU LIKE ANYONE?
FLASH!
W-WHAT?!!
OF COURSE NOT!!
WHY WOULD
I LIKE THAT DORK!!
DORK?
WHO?
...

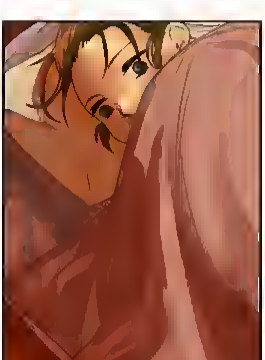
TURN
HMPH

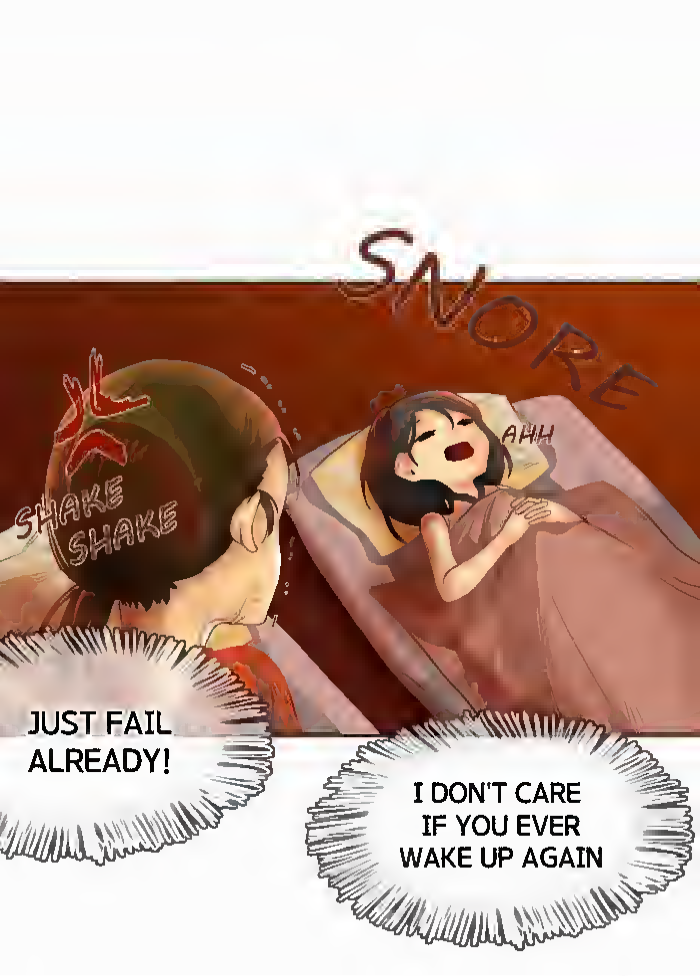

JUST STAY OUTTA MY WAY!
ONLY ONE PERSON HERE CAN BE A KUMARI!!
BUT I WANNA BE A KUMARI TOO

CAN'T WE JUST BOTH DO IT?
FIDGET
AH, IS IT BECAUSE THERE'S ONLY ONE CHAIR?
CAN'T I JUST BRING ANOTHER CHAIR FROM MY HOUSE?
CHATTER CHATTER
I LIKE YOU AND MY BROTHER!
JUST GO TO SLEEP, WOULD YOU!

I'VE GOT
SOMEONE

I LIKE.



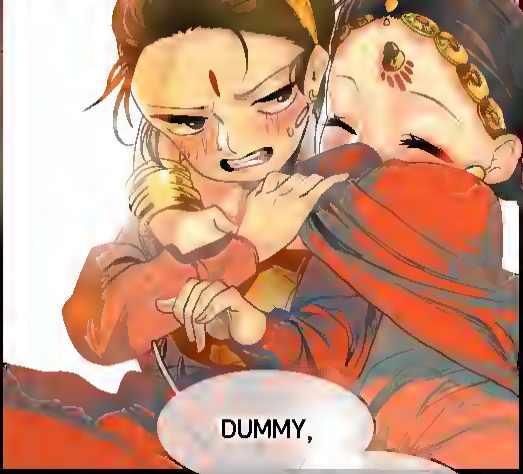

SNORE
AHH
SHAKE SHAKE
JUST FAIL ALREADY!
I DON'T CARE IF YOU EVER WAKE UP AGAIN

UGH...

A KUMARI'S BODY
BAD POSTURE.
DISQUALIFIED-
MUST BE LIKE A LINDEN TREE.

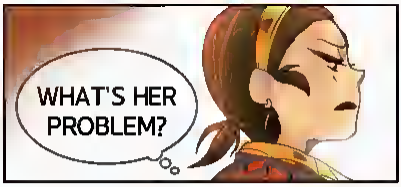
LEGS ARE TOO THICK.
DISQUALIFIED
HER THIGHS MUST BE SLENDER AS A DEER.
PERFECTLY STRAIGHT TEETH
SHE'S GOT A SNAGGLETOOTH.
DISQUALIFIED
HER HAIR ISN'T PERFECTLY BLACK.
DISQUALIFIED
BOTH HER HAIR AND EYES MUST BE BLACK. (BLACK IS BELIEVED TO BE A SACRED COLOR)

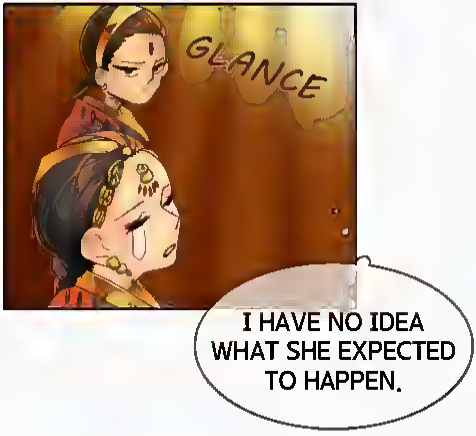
AND ONLY ONE GIRL
WE BOTH MADE IT THROUGH TODAY TOO!!
SQUEEZE
GASP
I'M SO HAPPY WE'RE TOGETHER, RAMLO!


DUMMY,
WE WON'T BE TOGETHER FOR LONG..
CAN BE A KUMARI...

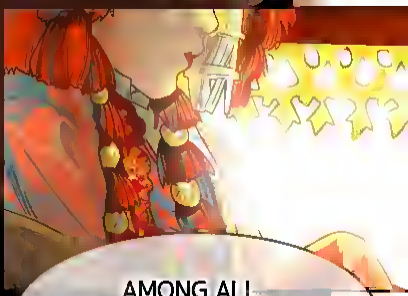
HOW COULD THIS HAPPEN-
I TOLD YOU THIS WOULD ONLY TAKE 3 DAYS
TAP
TAP
SITA JARUNA, SITA RAMLO.. ONE OF YOU WILL BE CHOSEN AS THE FINAL CANDIDATE TO BE THE NEXT KUMARI.

COME UP HERE.


WHAT'S HER PROBLEM?


GLANCE
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT SHE EXPECTED TO HAPPEN.

HUH..?
THIS IS THE LAST TEST FOR THE TWO OF YOU.

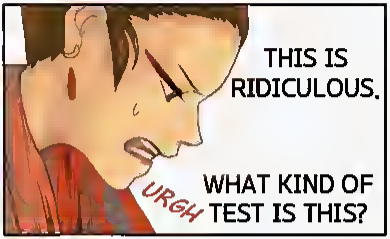


AMONG ALL THE THINGS ON THIS TABLE,

YOU MUST FIND SOMETHING THAT WAS WORN BY THE PREVIOUS KUMARI.

DUN
DUN
SOMETHING WORN...
BY THE PREVIOUS KUMARI...?

WHAT'S SHE TALKING ABOUT?
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO KNOW THAT?? AND THEY ALL LOOK EXACTLY THE SAME!
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO THE LAST KUMARI WAS...


THIS IS RIDICULOUS.
URGH
WHAT KIND OF TEST IS THIS?

THUMP
THUMP
STAY CALM
THUMP
THUMP

THUMP
THUMP
MAYBE THERE ISN'T EVEN A RIGHT ANSWER.

JUST
BE CONFIDENT.
YOU KNOW IT'S
AN IMPOSSIBLE TEST,
SO JUST GO FOR IT.
IF IT'S FATE,
YOU'LL BE ABLE
TO DO IT.

REACH

SO BE BOLD AND
CHOOSE SOMETHING.

SITA!

YOU HAVE TO
FEEL CERTAIN

THIS.
THAT YOU'RE WORTHY OF SERVING TALEJU.